

Wada does not address the reflection of *ultraviolet* radiation. Wada *consistently* refers to a reflective layer that improves the reflection of *visible* light. Wada specifically teaches that an ultraviolet ray from a gas discharge "is converted to visible light through the fluorescent layer Ph, *this visible light being reflected* by the white glass layer." That is, in a description that references both ultraviolet and visible light radiations, Wada specifically distinguishes which radiations are reflected by the reflective layer, and does not teach that the reflective layer also reflects the referenced ultraviolet rays.

The Office action asserts that because Wada's reflective layer may include some of the same chemical elements as those used in the applicants' example embodiments, Wada's reflective layer must have the same characteristics as the applicants' reflective layer. The applicants respectfully traverse this assertion, because it is well known in the art that different processes applied to the same elements generally produce different results. Sand and glass are the most common and obvious examples of the same element having different reflective characteristics.

Further, the reflective properties of a compound are also based on the composite of elements comprising the compound, not just a particular single element in the composite. Wada teaches forming a compound of glassy material that is deposited in powder form and melted to form a compact glassy layer. The materials indicated in the preferred embodiments include a high concentration of PbO as well as other oxides such as ZnO and B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> that provide a low melting point. The applicants respectfully maintain that Wada's baked compound will have an imaginary component ("*k*") of the refractive index that is *substantially greater than 0.05* below 380nm. In like manner, at least some of the materials taught by Wada to be added to enhance white-reflection, such as TiO<sub>2</sub>, are also known to absorb light in the ultraviolet range.

Further, the applicants specifically claim a non-metallic powder having an average grain diameter of less than 1 micrometer, whereas Wada specifically teaches pulverizing the baked glass compound into particles having an average diameter of 3 to 5 micrometers.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the present application to be in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert M. McDermott, Esq.

Reg. No. 41,508

804-493-0707

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

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On 23 April 2003

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